

U.S. Department of Justice United States Attorney Southern District of Georgia

Post Office Box 8970 Savannah, GA 31412 (912) 652-4422 / FAX (912) 652-4805

100 Bull Street Savannah, GA 31401

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CONTACT: Edmund A. Booth, Jr. First Assistant U.S. Attorney

Tel. No.: (706) 724-0517

DUBLIN DUO INDICTED FOR TAX FRAUD

Lisa Godbey Wood, United States Attorney for the Southern District of Georgia, announced today that Angela and Duncan Tinsley of Dublin, Georgia, were indicted today on charges returned by a federal grand jury sitting in Savannah, Georgia.

The indictment alleges that Angela and Duncan Tinsley engaged in a conspiracy to defraud the United States by filing fraudulent tax returns claiming refunds on behalf of individuals who had not been employed in the prior year. The indictment further charges Angela Tinsley with seventeen counts of filing false claims against the United States, and charges Duncan Tinsley with five counts of filing false claims against the United States. The indictment also charges Angela Tinsley with two counts of identity theft and alleges that she used the social security numbers of unknowing or deceased individuals to file fraudulent tax returns.

The maximum statutory penalty for the charge of conspiracy to defraud the government, upon conviction, is ten years imprisonment. The maximum statutory penalty for the charge of filing false claims against the government, upon conviction, is five years imprisonment. The maximum statutory penalty for identity theft, upon conviction, is fifteen years imprisonment. Wood emphasized that an indictment is only an accusation and is not evidence of guilt. The defendants are entitled to a fair trial, during which it will be the Government's burden to prove their guilt beyond a reasonable doubt.

The case is being investigated by the Savannah office of the Internal Revenue Service and Special Agent Gary Purvis is the lead case agent. The United States is represented by Assistant United States Attorney Jay Weimer.

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